



Public Safety Interoperable Communications Office (PSIC) Multiple Projects Updates September, 2013

Key Upcoming Events

- **Gila County, Graham County & Greenlee County TICP Kickoff Workshop**

September 24, 2013 – 9:00 – 4:00 PM

Graham County General Services Building – Assembly Room

921 W. Thatcher Boulevard

Safford, AZ 85546

- **Yavapai County TICP Development Workshop**

October 16, 2013 – 9:00 – 4:00 PM

Central Yavapai County Regional Training Academy

601 E. Valley Road

Prescott Valley, AZ 86314

2013 Technical Assistance (TA) Updates:

- TA requests are submitted annually by PSIC on behalf of the State after solicitation of stakeholder input. Each state can apply for up to five (5) TAs. Arizona received the following five technical assistance awards in 2013:
 - Communications Focused Table Top Exercise (OP-TTX) – Coconino County – Complete
 - NIMS ICS All-Hazards Communications Unit Technician Course (TRG-COMT) - Flagstaff - Complete
 - Mobile Communications Unit Support (OP-MCUS) - Statewide
 - Concept of Operations Document – Complete
 - Video SOP Development – Complete
 - Outreach, planning, and data collection for Broadband (ENG-BRDBND) – Statewide - In progress
- In addition, the City of Yuma received the following TA assistance through the Border Interoperability Demonstration Project:
 - Tactical Interoperable Communications Field Operations Guide Development (TIC-FOG) – Complete
 - Communications-Focused Functional Exercise (OP-FE) – In progress
 - Communications-Focused Exercise Workshop (OP-TEPW) – Complete
 - Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) Development (SOP-DEV) – In progress
- The Navajo Nation has been offered a Technical Assistance award from the Office of Emergency Communications (OEC). The PSIC Office participated in a discussion led by OEC with the Navajo Nation Department of Emergency Management to determine which Technical Assistance offering they would participate in. The PSIC Office has offered to assist OEC and the Navajo Nation where applicable with this project.

Governance (SCIP Initiatives #1 - 3)

- CASM & TICP's:
 - Upcoming TICP Workshops:

County	Kickoff Workshop	Development Workshop	Location
Yavapai	August 12, 2013	October 16, 2013	Prescott Valley
Gila, Graham and Greenlee	July 31, 2013	September 24, 2013	Safford

- Pima County updated their TICP that was originally created in 2010. It will go before the Pima County UASI Working Group for approval in September.
- The PSIC Office has begun working with Pinal County to update their 2011 TICP and CASM data. The update workshop will be scheduled in December 2013.
- PSIC is creating a state-level TICP to include federal and state-owned communications assets available for deployment statewide, which will be provided to all Arizona counties upon its initial completion. For more information, contact Karen Allen at Karen.Allen@azdoa.gov.
- The PSIC Office is updating communications asset data from TICPs in CASM, as it is provided. Agencies that would like to update CASM data may request a report containing their assets.
- By the end of 2013, all counties within Arizona will have a TICP.
- National Broadband Planning and Preparation:
 - The PSIC Office received an award notice on August 16th for Arizona's SLIGP grant request.
 - NTIA has established two budget "touch points"
 - Within thirty days of grant award, each State will develop and submit their Baseline/Expenditure plan for the entire performance period
 - Upon notification from FirstNet that a State is eligible to begin the Data Collection component, each State will submit a revised Baseline/Expenditure plan and NTIA will release the remaining grant funds.
 - July 19, 2013: [Northern Arizona Regional Digital Conference](#) Pinetop. Presented an overview of the AZPSBN program and gave a SLIGP/FirstNet status.
 - August 17, 2013: APCO Broadband Workgroup meeting – annual planning cycle
 - August 18-22, 2013: Attended and presented at APCO International Conference in Anaheim. "How Will NPSBN Impact Your PSAPs Governance, Policies, Standards and Procedures?"
 - August 27, 2013: Presented the AZPSBN program overview to the National Tribal Telecommunications Council. Co-presented with Kevin McGinnis – FirstNet Board Member and Tribal contact for FirstNet.
 - AZPSBN SLIGP grant Baseline Expenditure plan was submitted to the NTIA on September 16, 2013.
 - For more information on Broadband issues, contact Michael Britt at Michael.Britt@azdoa.gov.

SOPs (SCIP Initiative #4)

- In December, the Office of Emergency Communications (OEC) awarded Arizona a Technical Assistance (TA) grant for OP-MCVS: Mobil Communications Vehicle (MCV) Support. The goal of this TA was to develop detailed Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) and Concept of Operations Plans (CONOPS) for Arizona's State MCV's (Toads, Bullfrog). PSIC, ADEM and OEC met in January for data gathering for the SOP. PSIC, ADEM, Toad handlers and OEC met again in March to review the SOP and provide feedback and updates to this document. The final Toad and Bullfrog SOPs were provided to ADEM on August 29, 2013. Meetings will occur to discuss distribution and training to ensure counties are provided the information.

As a result of this TA, a secondary project emerged. Arizona – ADEM, PSIC and Gila County Emergency Manager's office – participated in a beta test for OEC to create a video version of the Toad SOP. Videos were created to show how each piece of equipment is deployed, utilized and shut down. The videos were reviewed and

updated and have been completed as of August 29, 2013. The project was a success and the AZ Toad videos will be posted on the OEC www.publicsafetytools.com website as an example to others, offering the video SOP as a Technical Assistance (TA) grant program. Thanks to Gila County EM, Debra Williams for assisting with location determination and access to the Toad. ADEM and PSIC have begun disseminating the SOP to the Toads and will work together to share the videos.

- Regional Communications Systems Connection (RCSC) Project Status:
 - Executive summary and technical timeline – complete
 - Multi-agency IGA: RWC, TRWC, DPS and YRCS have approved the IGA. Maricopa County and PC-WIN can sign on as they become operational with their new Regional Systems - complete
 - Operational Supplement - complete
 - Multi-agency SOP: may need to be re-visited/finalized once the build-out is finished - complete
 - Pilot test with DPS and YRCS – complete and successful
 - Deployment Schedule – being developed in conjunction with Thompson Peak build out – nearing completion

Technology (SCIP Initiatives #5 - 9)

- Arizona Interagency Radio System (AIRS) (Initiative #5):
 - In order to make AIRS an increasingly effective statewide interoperable communications resource, the PSIC Office recently sent a letter to all Arizona public safety agencies who our records indicated had not yet signed the AIRS Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Department of Public Safety (DPS). Agencies and organizations wishing to operate on AIRS must sign an MOU with DPS, which holds the licenses for AIRS frequencies.
 - A list of agencies who have signed the AIRS MOU is available on the PSIC Office website at: http://www.azpsic.gov/library/airs/airs_user_list.pdf
- AIRS (Initiative #5): AIRS Improvement and Sustainability Plan:
 - The Arizona Interagency Radio System (AIRS) Improvement & Sustainability Plan was approved by the SIEC at the meeting on October 9, 2012 ([see presentation for details](#)). The Plan establishes requirements for the integration of locally procured AIRS infrastructure into the statewide AIRS system and provides guidance for initial approvals and ongoing maintenance responsibilities.
 - Due to the retirement of Scott Tillman, Jeremy Knoll – Telecommunications Systems Maintenance Supervisor of the Wireless Systems Bureau at the Arizona Department of Public Safety – is the new contact for the AIRS Improvement and Sustainability Plan.
 - For assistance with completing the established procedures please contact Glade Jarman at Glade.Jarman@azdoa.gov.
- Support of Regional Communication Systems (Initiative #6) – YRCS BIDP:
 - The Yuma countywide TICP was updated through a BIDP Technical Assistance award. Material from the updated TICP, which was approved by the YRCS Council in August of last year, was used to develop a Tactical Interoperable Field Operations Guide (TICFOG). The Yuma TICFOG was approved by the YRCS Board in May and has been printed and distribution has begun to stakeholders.
 - A Technical Assistance (TA) grant has been approved for a Communications Focused Functional Exercise. The exercise is intended to evaluate the updated TICP for effectiveness and allow Yuma County and other YRCS participating agencies to demonstrate their ability to use regional communications assets in a large-scale incident scenario through simulated movement of personnel and equipment. Planning meetings for the Exercise have begun and the exercise will be held on October 1, 2013.
 - Initial Planning Conference on June 18, 2013
 - Mid Planning Conference on July 23, 2013
 - Final Planning Conference on August 20, 2013
 - Functional Exercise will be held on October 1, 2013
 - After Action Meeting will be held on November 13, 2013

- Yuma received a TA workshop for Incorporating Communications into Public Safety Exercises. The workshop was held on August 21, 2013 in Yuma and had great participation.
- Yuma received approval for a BIDP TA for SOP Development on August 29, 2013. This TA will begin in early 2014.
- For more information contact Stephen Holland, Assistant IT Director of Telecommunications with the City of Yuma at Stephen.Holland@yumaaz.gov.
- State Agency Operability in support of Interoperability (Initiative #9) – The [RICO Project](#) is progressing:
 - All six sites have been activated. DPS installed equipment at the final site, Bernardino Mountain. While power is still an issue at this site, DPS installed the trunk suite in a low power and/or limited channel capacity.
 - Yuma met on site with nine of the pre-determined agencies in June to identify what was required to install the radio equipment. ADEM has already received their equipment and will be installing it themselves. Tohono O'odham Nation Police Dept is still undecided on participation. Quotes have been received by Yuma for equipment and installation. The equipment list has been approved and installations are being scheduled.
 - A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and a draft Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for identified agencies to utilize the Southeastern Arizona Communications Center Talk Group has been developed. Once installation is nearing completion, PSIC will coordinate a meeting between all of the agencies to review the document once more and hand it over to the participants.
 - For more information, contact Karen Allen at Karen.Allen@azdoa.gov or Stephen Holland, Assistant IT Director of Telecommunications with the City of Yuma at Stephen.Holland@yumaaz.gov.

Training & Exercise (SCIP Initiatives #10 & 11)

- Arizona Regional All-Hazards Communications Unit Recognition:

The NIMS-CU Workgroup convened on August 22, 2013, for an Arizona Regional All-Hazards COML/COMT Application Review Meeting:

 - 1 candidate was granted recognition by the Workgroup as an Arizona Regional All-Hazards COMT:
 - Frank Brady, Pima County Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security
 - As of September 2013: 24 individuals representing agencies from 6 counties have been granted recognition as either an Arizona Regional All-Hazards COML (20) or COMT (5) (one individual is recognized for both) and are listed on the Communications Unit Resource List (online at: www.azpsic.gov/library/coml).
- Communications Unit Field Day – Planning is now underway for a Field Day to be held early 2014 in Maricopa County utilizing a 2011 SHSGP grant from the Central RAC. The Field day will allow emergency responders to hone their skills and capabilities through hands-on training. Individuals who have completed a COML or COMT course in Arizona will be invited to this training opportunity. Individuals interested in participating on the Event Planning Team should contact Glade Jarman at gjarman@azpsic.gov
- ADEM 2013 State-Wide Exercise: Critical Infrastructure Seminar. Each year the Arizona Division of Emergency Management conducts a Statewide Exercise (SWE). The scenario for the 2013 Arizona SWE will simulate an extended power outage over multiple weeks. A scenario of this magnitude and the cascading effects cannot be exercised in one day, so this year there will be a series of exercises building up to the November 6, 2013 STARTEX. The *Arizona Statewide Communications Tabletop* occurred on *June 26, 2013* and was a facilitated discussion with the intended outcome to be for all participants to identify strengths and potential communication gaps within their agency's plan. PSIC assisted by facilitating during the small group breakout sessions.

Usage & Outreach (SCIP Initiative #12)

- PSCC / SIEC Meeting Recordings: Video production is underway for previously recorded PSCC and SIEC meetings. To date recordings for 9 previous meetings of the PSCC and SIEC have been converted and uploaded to YouTube and the PSIC Office website. A total of 46 videos have been produced and are available online:
 - [YouTube Channel](#)

Recent Activities

July 16-19, 2013 - Annual Law Enforcement Pow-Wow – Flagstaff, AZ
July 19, 2013 – Digital Arizona Project Conference – Pinetop, AZ
July 31, 2013 – [Gila, Graham, Greenlee TICP Kickoff Workshop \(Safford\)](#)
August 7-8, 2013 – [AESA Annual Conference](#)
August 8, 2013 – [Southwest Border Communications Working Group](#) – San Diego
August 12, 2013 – [Yavapai County TICP Kickoff Workshop](#)
August 14-15, 2013 - THIRA/SPR Workshop
August 17 – 22, 2013 – APCO Conference
August 21, 2013 - Incorporating Communications into Public Safety Exercises Workshop – Yuma, AZ
August 29, 2013 – Region IX Regional Emergency Communications Workgroup Plenary Meeting
September 4, 2013 – [SIEC Meeting](#)
September 9, 2013 - Homeland Security Senior Advisory Committee Meeting
September 11-13, 2013 – Arizona Association of Chiefs of Police Vendor Expo, Laughlin, NV

Upcoming Key Dates

September 17, 2013 – PSCC Meeting (Tucson)
September 20, 2013 – [AZ APCO/NENA Quarterly Meeting](#) - Prescott
September 24, 2013 – [Gila, Graham, Greenlee TICP Development Workshop \(Safford\)](#)
September 25, 2013 – [2013 Arizona Technology Summit](#)
October 1, 2013 – Yuma BIDP Functional Exercise
October 10, 2013 – Tucson UASI Meeting
October 15, 2013 – [SIEC Meeting](#)
October 16, 2013 – [Yavapai County TICP Kickoff Workshop](#)
November 6-7, 2013 – 2013 Statewide Exercise
November 19, 2013 – Executive Leadership Seminar: The Value Proposition of the Communications Unit
November 19, 2013 – [PSCC Meeting](#)

2014 PSCC Meeting Schedule

Unless otherwise noted, all 2014 PSCC Meetings will be held from 1 PM - 3 PM in the Arizona Department of Administration 3rd floor conference room. Additional information is available on the specific meeting page.

[Tuesday, February 18](#)

[Tuesday, April 15](#)

[Tuesday, July 15](#) - Flagstaff, AZ

[Tuesday, September 16](#) - Tucson, AZ

[Tuesday, November 18](#)

2014 SIEC Meeting Schedule

Unless otherwise noted, all 2014 SIEC Meetings will be held from 10 AM - 12 PM in the Arizona Department of Administration 3rd floor conference room. Additional information is available on the specific meeting page.

[Tuesday, January 21](#)

[Tuesday, March 18](#)

[Tuesday, March 20](#)

[Tuesday, August 19](#)

[Tuesday, October 21](#)